

GP 3724



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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: MUNTAZ SHAH

ART UNIT: 3724

SERIAL NO.: 09/403,796

EXAMINER:

FILED: OCTOBER 25, 1999

TITLE: CUTTING OF SHEET MATERIAL

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Patent & Trademark Office

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

<u>U.S. Patent No.</u>	<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
3,835,536	Emery Marcoux	September 17, 1974
5,282,316	Dennis C. Anderson	February 1, 1994

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Country/P.C.T.</u>	<u>Published/Issued</u>
458,795	Germany	March 29, 1928
196 54 034	Fed. Rep. Germany	July 31, 1997

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail addressed to: Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Edwin D. Schindler
Edwin D. Schindler, Reg. No. 31,459

February 8, 2000
Date

A copy of each of the references is submitted herewith along with Form PTO-1449.

The enclosed references were cited by the European Patent Office in connection with the prosecution of P.C.T. International Application No. PCT/GB98/01211, of which the instant U.S. patent application represents the U.S. National Phase of said P.C.T. international patent application.

Of the foregoing references, German Patent Application No. 196 54 034 was published on July 31, 1997, which is subsequent to Applicant's claimed date of foreign priority, which is April 25, 1997, and this therefore not citable as "prior" art against the claims of the instant U.S. patent application. A copy of German Patent Application No. 196 54 034, which was listed in Category "P" by the European Patent Office, acting as the International Search Authority, is included with this Information Disclosure Statement for the purpose of completeness and is not, and should not be construed, as an admission that such reference is citable as prior art.

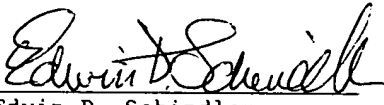
The accompanying references relate generally to cutters for sheet material generally known to the prior art.

These citations do not constitute an admission by Applicant that the references are relevant or material to the patentability of the claims.

Inasmuch as the present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action on the merits, no fee for its submission is submitted to be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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